

Amendment to Final OA  
USSN 10/035,796  
Faxed with RCE on 7/15/2003

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

### In The Claims

The following is a listing of all claims in the application and their status.

1. (Currently and Previously Amended) A stand alone modular oven assembly ~~for use with~~ fluidly connectable to a gas chromatograph, which oven assembly ~~is comprised consisting~~ essentially of a first housing having at least one inlet fluidly connected to at least one outlet, which first housing encloses:
  - a) a second housing defining an oven compartment comprising at least one inlet that is fluidly connected to at least one inlet of said first housing and at least one outlet that is fluidly connected to at least one outlet of said first housing, which oven further comprising:
    - i) a multiport chromatograph sampling valve having inlet ports and outlet ports wherein said sampling valve is capable of receiving a fluid sample in an inlet port and directing it to an outlet port, and wherein one of the inlet ports of said sampling valve is fluidly connected to an inlet port of said second housing;
    - ii) a fixed volume sampling loop that is either an integral part of ~~each one or more~~ sampling valve or is external to the sampling valve;
    - iii) a chromatograph column capable of separating ~~chemical components~~ a chemical component selected from the group consisting of C<sub>1</sub> to C<sub>8</sub> hydrocarbons, hydrogen, helium, oxygen, nitrogen, carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, hydrogen sulfide, sulfur dioxide, and carbonyl sulfide of a chemical sample containing one of more of said chemical components wherein said column has a first end and a second end, wherein said first end is fluidly

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Amendment to Final OA  
USSN 10/035,796  
Faxed with RCE on 7/15/2003

connected to an outlet port of said chromatographic sampling valve and said second end is fluidly connected to the outlet of said second housing; and

iii) an electric heater; and

b) a valve actuator for operating said sampling valve.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4. (Canceled)

5. (Original) The modular oven assembly of claim 1 wherein the column is a capillary column.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Original) The modular oven assembly of claim 1 which is integrated with a valved gas chromatograph by fluidly connecting the outlet of the housing of the oven assembly to the inlet of a detector of the gas chromatograph.

8. (Previously Amended) The modular oven assembly of claim 1 wherein the chromatographic column has a geometry selected to maximize the carrier gas linear velocity and sample capacity without overwhelming the column or detector.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Previously Amended) The modular oven assembly of claim 7 wherein the gas chromatograph contains both a flame ionization detector and a thermal conductivity detector.